



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
MARINE FORCES RESERVE  
MARINE FORCES NORTHERN COMMAND  
2000 OPELOUSAS AVENUE  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70114-5400

ForO 1760.1  
G-4/HSS  
22 Apr 2013

FORCE ORDER 1760.1

From: Commander  
To: Distribution List

Subj: REGISTRATION OF ALL VETERANS WITH THE VETERANS  
ADMINISTRATION HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Ref: (a) Section 1707 of Public Law 110-181, "National Defense  
Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008,"  
January 28, 2008  
(b) Marine Corps Total Force System Users Manual  
(MCTFS PRIUM)

1. Situation

a. It is estimated that one in three combat veterans suffer from some combination of depression/post traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury, or other medical issues resulting from deployment. Many Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) veterans lost TRICARE eligibility when released from active duty, or when Transitional Assistance Management Program benefits expired. To help combat veterans specifically, as prescribed in reference (a), Congress expanded access to enhanced Veterans Affairs (VA) health care benefits for five years from the date of discharge or separation from active duty service.

b. With only a few exceptions, most Marines and Sailors joined the reserves after leaving active service. Many of those service members who did not join the Selected Marine Corps Reserve (SMCR) or Navy Selected Reserve still had reserve service obligations and were joined to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR). We owe it to all these veterans to ensure that they know their rights and benefits afforded to them by the VA and register with the VA in order to take full advantage of the benefits they have earned.

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2. Mission. To strongly encourage all veterans within Marine Forces Reserve (MARFORRES) and Marine Forces Northern Command (MARFORNORTH) to register with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care system in order to take advantage of the myriad of programs and medical services they offer and to obtain a primary care manager within the VA health care system.

3. Execution

a. Commander's Intent. All MARFORRES/MARFORNORTH Marines and Sailors who are recipients of the Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal or Iraqi or Afghanistan Campaign Medals are strongly encouraged to immediately register with the VA health care system and to obtain a primary care manager within the VA health care system.

(1) To register use VA Form 10-10EZ, application for health benefits, available at: <http://www.va.gov>. Assistance with completing the form may be obtained by contacting a VA representative at 1-877-222-8387, or by visiting the VA website and selecting "Contact Us" tab.

(2) Another helpful VA resource website for veterans and family for related support is at: <http://maketheconnection.net/>.

b. Concept of Operations

(1) Major Subordinate Command (MSC) Commanding Generals (CG). Establish 100 percent contact with all eligible Marines who are assigned to the Active Component, Active Reserve, and Selected Reserve as part of Troop Information in order to facilitate marketing VA health care system registration.

(2) The Commanding General, Force Headquarters Group (FHG). For Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) and Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) Marines, the following guidance is provided:

(a) IRR Marines. The CG, FHG will integrate the VA registration process as part of the IRR Engagement Strategy to include the IRR Screening Muster process.

(b) IMA Marines. The CG, FHG will coordinate with the IMA Program Manager at Headquarters Marine Corps to ensure all Operational Sponsors are made aware of the benefits of registering with the VA. In addition, contact will be made with the individual Marine via other administrative means to include email to ensure knowledge of their eligibility and the enrollment process.

(3) MARFORRES Staff

(a) Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4. As the lead agency, coordinate with the MARFORRES staff in order to implement the guidance contained in this Order.

(b) Assistant Chief of Staff, G-6. Coordinate with the Staff Directorates and incorporate language of the VA Registration benefits into all of the MARFORRES 1-800 number voice recordings.

(c) Director, Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS). Incorporate this information as part of the Family Readiness Training.

(d) Force Family Readiness Officer. Promote this information as part of the Yellow Ribbon Program.

(e) Public Affairs Officer. Publish information on the VA Registration benefits via all available social media platforms.

4. Administration and Logistics

a. Eligibility. The following categories of Marines and Sailors are eligible to register with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care system.

(1) Veterans who served in a theater of combat operations after 11 November 1998 are eligible for an extended period of eligibility for health care for five years post discharge.

(2) Combat Veterans who were discharged or released from active service on or after 28 January 2003 are eligible to enroll in the VA health care system for five years from the date of discharge or release.

(3) The five year enrollment period begins on the discharge or separation date of the service member from active duty military service or in the case of multiple call-ups, the most recent discharge date.

b. Document the requirement to contact and educate each Marine and Sailor on the benefits of registering with the VA, and obtaining a primary care manager within the VA health care system as follows:

(1) Each Marine's Marine Corps Total Force System record will be appropriately annotated via the submission of a "Local Schools" completion training entry. "VA REGISTRATION TRNG" will be documented for each Marine contacted and will be submitted either via Marine OnLine (MOL) or unit diary. Paragraph 5-51003 of reference (b) provides the reporting instructions; amplification is as follows:

TTC 499 014 LOC SCOL COMPL (A) LOCATION (B) ED (C)  
(A) VA REGISTRATION TRNG  
(B) CITY/STATE OF UNIT MAKING CONTACT  
(C) YYYYMMDD CONTACT MADE

(2) Refer eligible Active Component, Full Time Support (FTS), and Selected Reserve Sailors who are assigned to MARFORRES to the nearest Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) in order to document the training.

c. Annually, but no later than 1 February of each calendar year a report will be submitted to the Commander, MARFORRES/MARFORNORTH (attn.: G-4/HSS) indicating compliance with the provisions contained within this Order.

#### 5. Command and Signal

a. Command. This Order is applicable to the Marine Corps Reserve.

b. Signal. This Order is effective the date signed.



S. A. HUMMER

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